

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please insert the following new paragraph beginning on page 1, line 3:

This application is a U.S. national entry of International Application No. PCT/AU2003/000249, filed on February 28, 2003, which claims priority from Australian Patent Application No. 2002951912, filed on October 8, 2002.

Please insert the following new paragraphs, beginning on a separate sheet following the claims:

Abstract

The present invention provides a purified expressed δ tryptase polypeptide or fragment or analogue thereof, in particular, the human δ tryptase polypeptide or fragment or analogue thereof. The present invention also provides variants of such polypeptides. The invention further relates to methods of diagnosing disease states based on expression of these polypeptides and methods of screening for compounds that interact, bind and/or modulate the activity of the polypeptides.